Hebrews – Jesus is the High Priest of the Perfect Covenant (Part 24) A Contrast for Those Leaning Backward.

We live in a time when Christianity and Christians are growing steadily weaker.

Some move toward legalism while others jettison doctrine and adapt to the felt needs of the culture. (Hebrews 12:14-29) A contrast for those leaning backward. (v.14-17) Be a _____ community representing God. (v.14) Living a peaceful holy life is______. (v.15) Caring for one another facilitates God's grace and negates infectious bitterness. (Eph. 4:30-32) (v.16=17) Being morally accountable to one another reduces the chance of blessings. (v.18-21) Under the Old Covenant God's presence and words generated fearful responses. (v.18) Judaism was kindergarten revelation that instructed men primarily through the physical senses. At Mt. Sanai, the voice of God produced a sense of dread, fear, and even . . God primarily gave the Mosaic Law to show the Israelites their utter sinfulness. God was portrayed at Sinai as absolutely sovereign, perfectly holy and a severe judge. All who were connected with the giving of the Mosaic Law were filled with fear and trembling because the Law does not save but______. (Gal. 3:23-25) (v.22-24) In contrast the gospel presented in the New Covenant is not visible, touchable, nor perceived by the physical senses. The true gospel is primarily spiritual and can be understood only by______ Fear of death and judgment is replaced by love, grace, and mercy. In the New covenant, God is _____ and available to us because of the sacrifice of Christ. (v.25-29) God is still absolutely sovereign, perfectly holy and a severe judge. There is no escaping judgment for refusing Christ. (Hebrews 10:26-31) God has not changed – he is still to be worshipped with holy fear and awe. He will be pleased with nothing less than ______ devotion in service to Him.